

In response to the Final Office Action dated January 10, 2005, the Applicant does herein submit his Response to Final Office Action. This Response is filed in a timely manner, with Certificates of Mailing, and within the three month time period granted by the Examiner to respond.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 4 through 6, inclusive, in the present Divisional Patent Application.

The claims for the present Divisional Patent Application now are as shown below:

1 (Previously Presented). A Retractable Auxiliary Tailgate, comprised essentially of:

- a. an open frame back panel with a top rail located along a top end of said open frame back panel, and with a plurality of frame locks located on opposite end of the open frame back panel;
- b. said open frame back panel is attached to a primary tailgate, with a horizontal back panel hinge by means of a set of hinge pins matedly fit into a set of corresponding hinge pin ports, thereby holding said horizontal back panel hinge to said primary tailgate;
- c. the open frame back panel is retractable within the primary tailgate, when said Retractable Auxiliary Tailgate is in its closed position, and with only said top rail visible along said primary tailgate's top end;
- d. said open frame back panel is moved to its horizontal open position by pulling the open frame back panel out of the primary tailgate, and through the horizontal back panel hinge, and through a set of primary frame ports, until said open frame back panel

emerges from within said primary tailgate, and then said frame locks each fit into a frame lock port;

e. the open frame back panel is moved to its vertical open position by pulling said open frame back panel to its horizontal open position, and then rotating the open frame back panel, with said horizontal back panel hinge being an axis of rotation, from a horizontal position to the vertical position, and then setting said open frame back panel into a set of secondary frame ports, where the open frame back panel is then effectively locked into its vertical open position.

2 (Previously Presented). A Retractable Auxiliary Tailgate, as recited in claim 1, and further comprised essentially of a set of reflectors attached to said open frame back panel.

3 (Previously Presented). A Retractable Auxiliary Tailgate, as recited in claim 1, and further comprised essentially of a retractable stop affixed to the top rail, and such that said open frame back panel may still retract into the primary tailgate, with said top rail visible along said primary tailgate's top end.

4 (Cancelled).

5 (Cancelled).

6 (Cancelled).